



Celebrate St. Paul's!



139 years of service

133 Church St. P.O. Box 177 Bowmansville, Pa. 17507 717-445-6256
www.stpaulsucchurch.org Sunday Worship 10:30 am

Volume 21, Number 10
October 2025

What's Inside?

Providence and
Pastries

Book of the Month

Pastor
Appreciation

Bonfire

Communion

NIN Offering



“I FORGIVE HIM”

Prior to his death at the hands of the Nazis 80 years ago this year, Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote the classic book “The Cost of Discipleship”. In it, Bonhoeffer said this: “We know how Jesus suffered, and how all people have been forgiven at the foot of the cross.”

He went on to say: “instead of seeing others as those who have injured us, we see them as those for whom Christ has won forgiveness on the cross.”

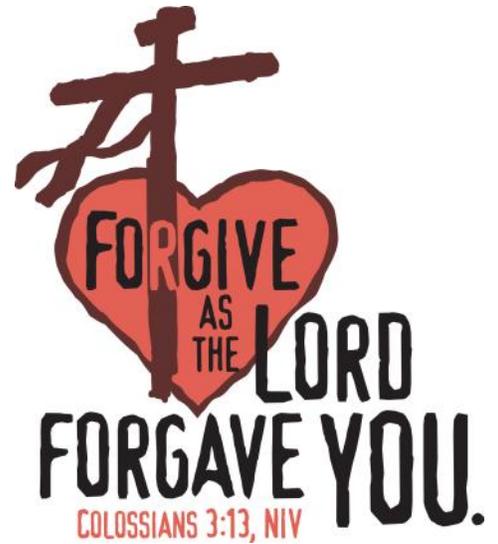
Dietrich Bonhoeffer knew the full cost of Christian discipleship, and paid the price of martyrdom.

He also knew that forgiving (and even loving!) those who have injured us was a price worth paying as disciples of Jesus; because that price came with a great reward:

“If we answer the call to discipleship, where will it lead us? Only Jesus knows the journey’s end. But we do know that it will be a road of boundless mercy....discipleship means joy!”

May we follow that journey, follow the examples, of mercy and forgiveness and Christlike love.....and may we find joy.

Phil



Mission Statement

We, the congregation of St. Paul’s United Church of Christ, who have accepted the gift of love and salvation through Jesus Christ, strive to take this message into the world through our prayers, words and deeds. We invite all people to accept these gifts with us.



“First Sunday Blessing”

October 5th

A special service of music and devotions to start off our month featuring Shelleen Weaver.

Everyone is welcome and bring a friend!

“Pancakes at Paul’s”

***FREE Community Breakfast
at St. Paul’s UCC Church
October 6th***



1st Monday of every month 6-9am

***Pancakes Sausage Coffee Juice Toast & Homemade Jelly
(featuring the world’s best sausage)***

St. Paul’s UCC Fellowship Hall

133 Church Street, Bowmansville, Pa. 17507

more info call 717-445-6256

Providence and Pastries

After starting a new diet, I altered my drive to work to avoid passing my favorite bakery. I accidentally drove by the bakery this morning and there in the window was a host of goodies. I felt this was no accident, so I prayed, “Lord, it is up to you. If you want me to have any of those delicious baked goods, create a parking place for me directly in front of the bakery.”

And sure enough, God answered my prayer! On the eighth time round the block, there it was!



Looking Ahead

October 4	Bon Fire
October 5	Communion Neighbors In Need Offering
October 6	Pancakes @ Paul's
October 16	Fill Food Bank Orders
October 31	Halloween
November 2	All Saints Remembrance
November 11	Veterans Day
November 16	Congregational Meeting
November 23	Communion
November 27	Thanksgiving
November 30	1st Sunday of Advent

Church Library; Book of the Month



This month I am featuring a book called *"The Chariot of Israel"*.

This book is about the prophet Elijah; one of the most outstanding personalities in history. He was an unusual combination of frailty and faith. When Elijah was caught up to heaven his disciple, Elisha cried out, "the chariot of Israel, and its horsemen." Elisha wasn't referring to the chariot but to the prophet. It was the prophet's intimate relationship with God that gave the prophet the title. Elijah's amazing confrontation with the prophets of Baal endures as one of Scripture's most vivid accounts of how God demonstrated His awesome power before unbelieving men.

This study of Elijah's life will captivate you as it walks you through a pivotal period in Israel's history.

Hope you enjoy the book,
Jane Hoshour.

Consistory News

October Is Pastor Appreciation Month!



Let's show our love and gratitude for our pastor this month! Drop off a note of thanks, share a favorite sermon memory or simply tell him how he has made a difference.

A **bonfire** is scheduled for Saturday, October 4th in the field next to the church. It will begin around 6:30pm and we will be toasting marshmallows, making smores, and roasting hotdogs.



Bring a roasting stick if you have one and a chair. You may also bring a snack to share if you like. Everyone is invited!

Our next communion will be on Sunday, October 5th during worship. It is known as "World Communion Sunday", where many churches around the world will be sharing in communion with us. Please plan on attending; everyone is welcome to share in this important sacrament.



NIN (Neighbors In Need) is a special UCC offering that is taken once every year to support programs of justice and compassion with one third of the offering given to the Council for American Indian Ministries. If you would like to make a donation, offering envelopes will be provided for your convenience.



Prayer Concerns: We will be updating our prayer list monthly by starting a new list at the beginning of every month.

Please continue to review the list and if there are any updates during the month please contact Phil Shober or Dee

Sprecher. We also have prayer request cards located in the parlor room and in the pews upstairs for your convenience. You can fill out the request and turn it in to the church office or place it in the offering plate.

As you continue your own prayers and concerns outside of the sanctuary this week, please remember the concerns we have raised as a community.

Our list of recent prayer concerns.

Barb, Beth, Brit, Carrie, Colton, Dawn, David, Eric, Gabby, Marian, Nancy, Philip, Steve, Tripp, the Hoshour family, the Kirk family, Phyllis's family, Shelleen and her family, families in Minneapolis, the families in Colorado, our teachers, first responders, and Veterans, and for the families of the York county shootings.



Suggested Prayer... "Most gracious and loving God, we lift up our list of prayer concerns this day and every day that all who are listed might know and feel your presence with them in their time of need. God, continue in your support for all of our friends and family listed and those who are forever in our hearts so that they might feel you with them each day, Amen."

If you would like to ask for prayers for someone please contact Kieran Connelly. Below is a list of the individuals on our Prayer Team that will pray for you throughout the week.

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Kieran Connelly | 717-471-5018 |
| Lynda Cooper | |
| Gretchen Martin | Jane Hoshour |
| Gerri Shober | Nancy Caffrey-Schafer |
| Steve Renninger | Chris Storms |
| Phil Shober | Donna Ozga |

Caring for Our Members

Please remember our members and friends in your prayers. Many in retirement villages and their homes are unable to attend church due to the pandemic and other health concerns.



Mary Tamerius
Faithful Living
2015 N. Reading
Road Room 156
Denver, Pa. 17517

Alta Hoshour
Ephrata Manor
99 Bethany Rd
Room# 123A
Ephrata, Pa 17522
717-209-0509

Betty Musser
566 Springville Rd
Apt 106
New Holland, Pa. 17557

Pastoral Visits or Emergencies



If anyone is in need of pastoral assistance please contact Phil Shober anytime via text or call at 610-780-3915 or email philipshober@gmail.com. You can also call the church office at 717-445-6256 or email the church secretary at dee@stpaulsuccchurch.org.

The People's Pantry

It will be our turn to fill the orders at the food bank in Terre Hill on Thursday, October 16th. If you would like to help please see Nancy Connelly.

Below is a list of the current needs requested for the food bank in Terre Hill.

Paper Towels

Canned Vegetables;

Green Beans, Corn, Peas, Creamed Corn

Unscented Laundry Detergent

Any donations can be placed on the table by the side door entrance.

Updated Needs

Thank you for your continued support.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

October

- 4 Steve Renninger
- 6 Julie Schulz
- 8 Kieran Connelly
- 10 Mary Renninger
- 12 Sara Renninger
Mateo Shober
- 20 Fay Gable
- 29 Anna Fortuna



Anniversaries



Ross & Natalie Shober - 12 yrs on October 12

Brian & Gretchen Martin - 38 yrs on October 17



Bible Quiz



The book of Jonah tells the story of a prophet who ran from God, faced a storm, and learned about God's mercy. Which of the following statements is true?

- A. Jonah told the sailors he was running from God, and they threw him overboard.
- B. The fish that swallowed Jonah washed up on the shores of Joppa.
- C. Jonah preached in Nineveh for forty days and forty nights.
- D. After the city repented, Jonah rejoiced and built an altar to the Lord.



Treasurer's Report

The monthly report for August 2025

Checking & MM Accounts

Beginning Balance	\$126,831.56
+ Receipts	7,419.42
- Disbursements	14,270.29
Ending Balance	\$119,980.69

A copy of this information can also be found at the mailboxes in the slot marked financial reports.

August's offering only total was \$5,359.00.

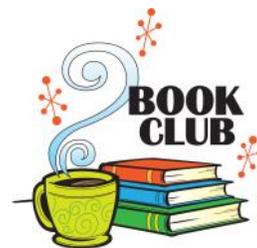


Literary Ladies Bookclub

St. Paul's Ladies Literary Bookclub meets the last Monday of each month.

The meeting is held on zoom and begins at 6:30 PM.

If you're interested in joining contact Gerri at 717-575-1720.



Bible Study Update

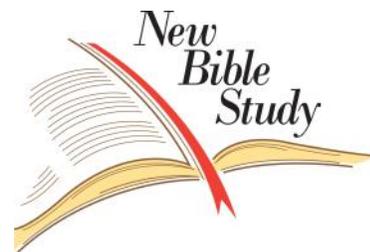
The Ladies have begun a series, *Jesus and Women In the First Century and Now*, by Kristi McLelland

(<https://www.lifeway.com/en/contributors/kristi-mclelland>)

This series includes a short video followed by a lesson and discussion. They meet in the café area.

The men have recently started a new series titled, *"Exploring Sacred Music"*. This study explores how traditional and modern Christian music is rooted in scripture. The series is expected to continue until December. They meet in the fellowship hall area.

Both groups gather on the second Wednesday of the month, 6:30pm to 7:30pm. Anyone is welcome. If interested or you have any questions please see Gerri or Phil Shober.



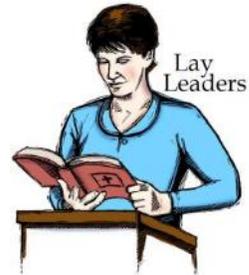
Online Worship: We are holding worship services in person and streaming LIVE on YouTube.

If you would like to watch our service live on YouTube please click on the link below.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMUzTE3jCqaDyG2WIUzaX9w/live>



Monthly Volunteers



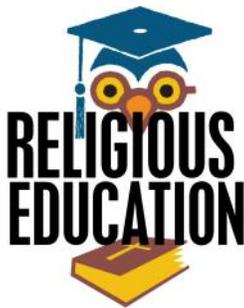
October 5 Judy Enck **
 October 12 Mary Renninger
 October 19 Dee Sprecher
 October 26 Cheryl Borja

October 5 Julie Schulz
 October 12 Gerri Shober
 October 19 Barry Gehman
 October 26 Mary Renninger

November 2 Sara Renninger
 November 9 Gerri Shober
 November 16 Judy Enck
 November 23 Mary Renninger **
 November 30 Dee Sprecher

November 2 Sharon Blechschmidt
 November 9 Kieran Connelly
 November 16 Lynda Cooper
 November 23 Charlie Storms
 November 30 Tim Lutz

** Indicates communion



October 5 FSB—no class
 October 12 Gerri Shober
 October 19 Children's Storytime –Grace
 October 26 Jane Hoshour

Nursery available as needed

November 2 FSB—no class
 November 9 Cheryl Borja
 November 16 Children's Storytime –Grace
 November 23 Gerri Shober
 November 30 Jane Hoshour

Sponsors



October 5	open
October 12	open
October 19	open
October 26	open
November 2	open
November 9	open
November 16	open
November 23	open
November 30	open

Christian Symbol



VERBUM DOMINI MA- NET IN AETERNUM —

Latin for “The Word of the Lord Endures Forever,” this motto of the Lutheran branch of the

Protestant Reformation comes from 1 Peter 1:25. Frederick the Wise, ruler of Saxony and one of Martin Luther’s earliest and most influential supporters, had the VDMA symbol sewn into the right sleeve of the official garments worn at his court. The symbol also appeared on banners, flags, swords, and uniforms, representing the unity of the Lutheran laity in standing firm in their faith.

Altar Flowers

If you are interested in sponsoring flowers on a particular Sunday, please see Dee Sprecher.



Forms are available in the church office for you to fill in your dedication information at least one week prior to the Sunday you would like to have it included.

We are no longer ordering real flowers due to the cost. If you prefer real flowers you must order them yourself, otherwise we will use the artificial flowers we have.

Thank you.

St Paul’s UCC *Celebrate*

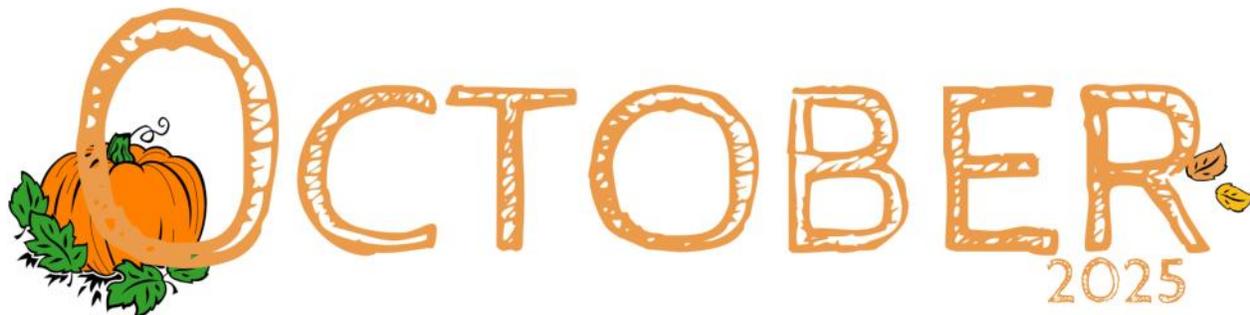
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St Paul’s UCC *Celebrate* is published monthly to keep members and friends informed of programs of the church and to report news about the community and its people.

Deadline for article submissions: The third Sunday of each month.



OCTOBER 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Piano lessons 4:30-5:30 pm	2	3	4 Bonfire 6:30
5 First Sunday Blessing 10:30 Communion NIN Offering	6 Pancakes @ Paul's	7	8 Piano lessons 4:30-5:30 pm Men's & Ladies Bible Study 6:30pm	9	10	11
12 Worship 10:30	13	14	15 Piano lessons 4:30-5:30 pm	16 Choir Practice 7pm Fill Food Bank Orders	17	18
19 Worship 10:30	20	21	22 Piano lessons 4:30-5:30 pm	23	24	25
26 Worship 10:30 Fellowship Hall Reserved	27 Book Club 6:30	28	29 Piano lessons 4:30-5:30 pm	30	31 Halloween	